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ABSTRACT

In December 1980, a study was conducted by William Rainey Harper College (WRHC) to determine the feasibility of establishing a pharmacy technology program. Professional Life Science and Human Services staff members telephoned 13 hospital pharmacies and four retail pharmacies in WRHC's service area. It was felt that if the 15 responding pharmacies could provide sufficient employment for program graduates, the pharmacy technology program could be justified. During the interviews, pharmacy representatives were provided with information about the proposed curriculum and asked questions relating to their feelings toward the proposed curriculum, job persistence of pharmacy technicians, on-the-job training, whether they would encourage employees to participate in the program, tuition reimbursement plans, the number of program graduates they would hire, starting salaries for pharmacy technicians, possibility of providing clinical training stations, and employee interest in serving as guest lecturer or advisory committee member. The survey revealed justification for beginning the program, based on: (1) respondents indicated that they would hire 43 program graduates within a year and would recommend that 22 present employees enroll; (2) respondents employed more than 249 pharmacy technicians who had an average job longevity of three years; and (3) employers indicated they would start program graduates at a higher salary than non-graduates. The study report includes course descriptions, the interview schedule, and letters in support of the program. (AYC)

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FEASIBILITY STUDY

FOR THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF A

PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

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Volume XI, No. 8

FEBRUARY 15, 1981

William Rainey Harper College
Palatine, Illinois
Office of Planning and Research

JC 810 597

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ABSTRACT

THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY WAS TO DETERMINE IF IT WOULD BE FEASIBLE TO ESTABLISH A PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AT HARPER COLLEGE. PROFESSIONAL STAFF CONDUCTED A TELEPHONE SURVEY AMONG 13 HOSPITAL PHARMACIES AND 4 RETAIL PHARMACIES IN THE NORTHWEST SUBURBAN AND THE CHICAGO AREAS. ALL BUT TWO PHARMACIES ANSWERED THE SURVEY COMPLETELY. THE SURVEY ASKED RESPONDENTS TO RELATE THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND TO REACT TO HARPER'S PROPOSED CURRICULUM IN PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY INDICATED THAT THERE WAS AMPLE JUSTIFICATION TO BEGIN A PROGRAM IN PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY. AT THIS TIME, IT APPEARS THAT THE PROGRAM COULD EASILY SUPPORT 33 FULL-TIME AND 7 PART-TIME STUDENTS A YEAR AND THE PROGRAM IS BEING PLANNED TO BEGIN WITH ONLY TWENTY STUDENTS. THERE IS ALSO GOOD EVIDENCE THAT DEMAND FOR THE PROGRAM WILL GROW SUBSTANTIALLY, ESPECIALLY IF LICENSURE BECOMES A REQUIREMENT FOR PHARMACY TECHNICIANS IN ILLINOIS.

THE SAMPLE SURVEYED INDICATED EMPLOYERS WOULD BE WILLING TO PAY AN AVERAGE OF 56¢ MORE PER HOUR FOR HARPER GRADUATES THAN FOR BEGINNING UNTRAINED TECHNICIANS. THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE ADEQUATE INCENTIVE TO ATTRACT STUDENTS TO THE PROGRAM. MOST ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAMS WHICH WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE EMPLOYEES TO ENROLL AT HARPER. THERE WAS ALSO SUBSTANTIAL SUPPORT FROM THE RETAIL PHARMACIES AND HOSPITAL PHARMACIES SURVEYED AS DEMONSTRATED BY THEIR INTEREST IN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND IN GUEST FACULTY SERVICE. FINALLY, EIGHT HOSPITAL PHARMACIES WROTE LETTERS SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED PROGRAM.

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Purpose

The purpose of this study was to determine if it would be feasible to establish a Pharmacy Technology program and to determine if there would be adequate employment opportunities for its graduates. The study was requested by the Division of Life Science and Human Services which will organize this program.

Population Surveyed and Methodology

Professional staff in the Division of Life Science and Human Services telephoned 13 hospital pharmacies and 4 retail pharmacies in the Northwest Suburban and Chicago area. Two of the retail pharmacies belonged to national chains and because of national policy could provide little or no information for the survey. The other 15 organizations answered all the survey questions fully. It was thought that these 15 organizations would represent a conservative base of support. If these 15 organizations by themselves could provide enough employment for graduates of the proposed program, then the program could be justified. The program could only become larger with the support of additional organizations.

The structured survey interview form was designed jointly by the Office of Planning and Institutional Research and the Division of Life Science and Human Services. This survey form is shown in the appendix. Included in the telephone survey was a description of the proposed Pharmacy Technology curriculum (also shown in the appendix) which was designed by the Division of Life Science and Human Services. The curriculum closely follows the experiences of Parkland Community College in Champaign which has a program already in operation.

Finally, at the conclusion of the interview organizations were asked to send a letter of support for the program. Eight of the organizations have sent such letters and they are shown in the appendix.

Summary of Results

The 15 hospital pharmacies and retail pharmacies interviewed completely indicated that within a year's time they would hire at least 43 Harper graduates. They would also recommend that at least 22 present employees take a few courses in the program and at least 57 present employees enroll for the complete certificate program. If these numbers are spread over three years (representing the average longevity of pharmacy technology employees), it appears the proposed program could easily support 33 full-time students and 7 part-time students per year. The program is planned to start by enrolling 20 students in the first year, well within the employment demand. In the future additional demand will come from other hospital pharmacies and retail pharmacies not surveyed. Two of the local hospitals are new and are just starting their pharmacy departments and anticipate further growth. The most important factor will be whether the State will require licensing for Pharmacy Technicians. If that occurs a great increase in demand for Harper graduates will come from retail pharmacies.

The institutions surveyed indicated that currently they have more than 249 pharmacy technicians and that the average longevity of each technician is about three years. Beginning technicians who are untrained start at an average of $5.11 per hour. These

organizations say they would hire Harper graduates at an average of $5.67 per hour or 56¢ per hour more than an untrained technician. This $5.67 per hour projects to an annual salary of $11,830 per year which is about $1400 per year under what an average Harper career graduate would start out at today. It must be remembered that most Harper career graduates have completed a two year associate degree as compared to the proposed one year Pharmacy Technology Certificate Program. Thus there appears to be adequate incentive to attract students to the field. Some organizations report paying an additional differential for evenings or weekend work. In addition most of the sample had a tuition reimbursement plan. Specifically almost three-fourths of the sample reported either a full or partial tuition reimbursement plan and even the partial plans paid on the average three-fourths of the tuition.

About a third of the sample hire only experienced technicians, mostly foreign trained pharmacists awaiting licensure or current pharmacy school students. The other organizations train their own technicians through an average of 4 months of on the job training. A few supplement on the job training with a two week intensive classroom experience and a few offer some type of continuing education experience. The latter consists of educational presentations at regular staff meetings, special guest lectures, or film presentations.

The sample of hospital pharmacies and retail pharmacies were asked to give their reaction to the proposed curriculum. There were many more strengths suggested than weaknesses, and the six weaknesses cited all were quite different in nature. Seven of the 15 organizations did suggest that some additions were needed to the curriculum and three of these were for clerical skills. If the demand for graduates among pharmacies becomes more substantial, there might be an even larger demand for clerical skills to be included in the program.

Although not asked directly, one retail pharmacy and two hospital pharmacies indicated they would be willing to provide clinical experience for the students for the proposed summer practicum. It is assumed that probably the other organizations who said they would hire Harper graduates or would send present employees to the program would also provide clinical experiences for the practicum.

There were nine suggestions for the advisory committee and more than 13 suggestions for guest faculty for the program. Finally, eight hospital pharmacies sent letters of support for the proposed Pharmacy Technology Program.

Major Conclusions

The survey indicated that there was ample justification to begin a program in Pharmacy Technology. At this time, it appears that the program could easily support 33 full-time and 7 part-time students a year and the program is being planned to begin with only twenty students. There is also good evidence that demand for the program will grow substantially, especially if licensure becomes a requirement for Pharmacy Technicians in Illinois.

The sample surveyed indicated employers would be willing to pay an average of 56¢ more per hour for Harper graduates than for beginning untrained technicians. This would appear to be adequate incentive to attract students to the program. Most organizations provide tuition reimbursement programs which would also encourage employees to enroll at Harper. There was also substantial support from the retail pharmacies and hospital pharmacies surveyed as demonstrated by their interest in advisory committee membership and in guest faculty service. Finally, eight hospital pharmacies wrote letters supporting the proposed program.

DETAILED RESULTS

Demand for Proposed Program in Pharmacy Technology at Harper College

Hospital or Pharmacy	Would Hire New Harper Graduate	Would Recommend Present Employees Take a Few Courses	Would Recommend Present Employees Complete The Certificate
Northwest Community Hosp.	1	0	0
Veterans Adm. Lakeside	as many as possible*	4	Could not predict
Alexian Brothers Hosp.	5	0	15
Cook County Hosp.	8-10	10-15	0
Mercy Hospital & Med. Ctr.	hard to say	0	10
Holy Family Hosp.	Maybe	?	?
Les - On Pharmacy	Maybe	0	0
Michael Reese Hosp.	Maybe	2	0
Evanston Hosp.	as many as possible*	0	0
Lutheran General Hosp.	10	0	30
Loyola University Med. Ctr.	1	3	0
Good Shepherd Hosp.	1	0	0
Northwestern Mem. Hosp.	Would hire as many as have openings **	1	0
Guardian Pharmacy N.W.	1	0	1
Suburban Medical Center	2-4	0	1
Walgreens	Conflicts with national policy	→	→
Total	43	22	57
Demand spread over 3 year period (average length of time on job)	14	7	19
Minimum demand	33 full-time students per year 7 part-time students per year		

* Assume five per year
** Assume two per year

Present Pharmacy Technician Staffing

Hospital or Pharmacy	Number of Present Technicians	Average Length of Employment	Number of Positions Opening in 5 years
Northwest Community Hosp.	8	3 years	5
Veterans Adm. Lakeside	8	3-10 years	15
Alexian Brothers Hosp.	22	2 years	15
Cook County Hosp.	43	4-7 years	43
Mercy Hosp. & Med. Ctr.	15	3-4 years	8
Holy Family Hosp.	9	2 years	4
Les - On Pharmacy	No idea;called apprentices	Can't determine	?
Michael Reese Hosp.	7	2-10 years	10
Evanston Hosp.	25	½ year	?
Lutheran General Hosp.	38	1½ years	60
Loyola University Med. Ctr.	13	1½ years	7-8
Good Shepherd Hospital	6	New;can't determine now	New;just getting organized
Northwestern Memorial Hosp.	51	3	60
Guardian Pharmacy Northwest	1	Can't determine	1
Suburban Medical Center	3	New;can't determine	4-10
Osco and Walgreens	← data would be national →		
Total	249+	About 3 years	236+

Tuition Reimbursement Program of Hospital Pharmacies and Retail Pharmacies Surveyed

	N	PCT	
Complete reimbursement	3	20.0	
Partial reimbursement	8	53.4	Average 75% reimbursement
Very limited reimbursement	2	13.3	
No reimbursement	2	13.3	
Not sure	0	0	
	15	100%	

Starting Salary of Untrained Technicians	Starting Salary for Prospective Harper Graduates
$6.00/hr.	$6.35 - $6.72/hr.
$5.93/hr.	$6.91/hr.
$5.53/hr. (30¢ evening diff. 35¢ weekend diff.)	don't know
$5.45/hr.	$5.45/hr.
$5.09/hr.	$5.61/hr.
$5.00/hr.	$5.50/hr.
$5.00/hr.	$5.00/hr.
$5.00/hr.	don't know
$4.94/hr. (70¢ evening diff.)	$5.20/hr.
$4.80/hr.	$5.55/hr.
$4.50 - $5.00/hr.	next salary level (assume +50¢)
$4.66/hr.	$5.90/hr.
$4.33/hr	$4.60/hr.
don't use untrained technicians	$6.38 - $6.68/hr.
wide range - can't give specifics	don't know

Hourly average salary	$5.11/hr. plus some give evening and weekend differential	$5.67/hr. plus some give evening and weekend differential
Annual average salary (assume 40-hour week)	$10,660/yr.	$11,830/yr.
Annual average salary Harper Career Alumni 1979 Survey		$11,757
If 12% increase (1½ years) what alumni would average today		$13,200

Training Received by Present Technicians Before and On the Job

Hospital or Pharmacy	Type of Training Offered
Northwest Community Hospital	two weeks on the job - they do not deal with I.V. additives
Veterans Administration Lakeside	one year on the job - monthly meetings to review principles
Alexian Brothers Medical Ctr.	on the job (length of time not stated) once a month meetings - guest speakers addressing such topics as I.V. therapy etc.
Cook County Hospital	unstructured 2 - 3 months on the job - most are foreign-trained pharmacists waiting for licensure
Mercy Hospital & Medical Ctr.	3 months on the job training
Holy Family Hosp.	6 months on the job training progressing from one task to another
Les - On Pharmacy	on the job training at individual pharmacy - some training through district office
Michael Reese Hospital	hire only foreign pharmacy graduates waiting for licensure - would hire trained technicians in future
Evanston Hospital	1 - 2 weeks intensive classroom training - 2 - 3 months of general on the job training - staff and departmental meetings often have educational segment
Lutheran General Hosp.	2 weeks formal classroom instruction - 4 weeks on the job training
Loyola University Center Hosp.	hire only foreign pharmacists waiting for licensure and students in pharmacy college - train pharmacy students 5 - 6 months on the job training
Good Shepherd Hospital	hire only those with previous experience - on the job training lasts 3 days to 2 weeks - continuing education consists of special programs within the hospital - bi-monthly meetings dealing with educational issues and films from pharmaceutical houses
Northwestern Memorial Hosp.	3 months on the job training

Training Received by Present Technicians Before and On the Job (Continued)

Hospital or Pharmacy	Type of Training Offered
Guardian Pharmacy	continual on the job training
Suburban Medical Center	hire pharmacy students or other experienced technicians
Walgreens	uses a training manual
Osco	wouldn't comment on this
Summary	About a third of the organizations hire only experienced personnel while the others train their own, mostly through an average of 4 months of on the job training. A few supplement on the job training with a short intensive classroom experience. A few also provide some type of continuing education experiences for their technicians.

Perceived Strengths or Weaknesses in Proposed Curriculum

Strengths	Weaknesses
Everything well covered - 3	Too much theory - not enough practical
Good - 2	Pharmacy practicum needed early
Human potential seminar - 2	Need some Anatomy and Physiology
Computer courses - 2	Need to round out education
Fantastic schedule	Too much pharmacology for this level
Aseptic technique	Deal mostly with hospital details rather than retail
Law practicum	
Well thought out	
Comprehensive program	
Good start	
Down the middle of the road	
Very interesting	
Basic to start career	
Very good	
Can't fault what is described now	

Other Comments:

National chain pharmacies find it difficult to comment on proposed program.
Sees pharmacy technicians giving medications by end of decade.

Suggested Deletions or Additions to the Proposed Pharmacy Technology Program

None - 8

Pharmacy law should be offered in second semester rather than first semester.

Need to involve the community.

Don't feel extensive mathematics necessary.

Need clerical skills such as filing, sorting, billing, patient profiles and third party billing - 2

Include bacterial surveillance.

Need typing skills.

Some hospitals do not have computer set-ups so computer courses wouldn't be needed in those cases.

Need sterile techniques.

Comments:

Questions whether new program is needed.

Hospital Pharmacies and Retail Pharmacies Which Indicated They Could Provide Clinical Experience for the Summer Practicum

Guardian Pharmacy Northwest
Alexian Brothers Medical Center
Lutheran General Hospital

Suggestions for Advisory Committee Members for Pharmacy Technology Program

Lisa Gehr Ph.D - Holy Family Hospital

Sister Margaret Wright - Mercy Hospital and Medical Center

Harland Lee - Evanston Hospital

Mick Hunt - Lutheran General Hospital

Philip Johnson - Good Shepherd

Any one of the four pharmacists at Guardian Pharmacy Northwest

Walter Herbster- Suburban Medical Center

Charles Bennett, Janet Layne - Alexian Brothers Medical Center

Suggestions for Guest Faculty Members for Pharmacy Technology Program

Sister Mary Aquinas - Holy Family Hospital

Dr. James O'Donnell - Cook County Hospital

Conrad Blumquist - University of Illinois

Patricia Black - Supervisor at Lutheran General

Entire staff including Philip Johnson - Good Shepherd Hospital

Walter Herbster - Suburban Medical Center

Ada Wong
Robert Kizior
Dennis Tribble
Mary Jo Greco
Winglit Leung
Jo Ann Bohn
- Registered pharmacists at Alexian Brothers Medical Center

Harland Lee plus staff - Evanston Hospital

APPENDIX

Hospital_____

Name of Pharmacist_____

My name is Pat Wisner and I am on the staff of the Health and Life Science Division at Harper College and am in charge of determining the feasibility of establishing a new program for Pharmacy Technicians. This proposed program would be a one year _____ credit hour certificate program requiring the completion of_____ courses including the following:

(List courses)

1. What strengths or weaknesses do you see in such a proposed curriculum? _____

_____

_____

_____

2. Do you feel any deletions or additions are needed in this proposed certificate program?

_____

_____

_____

3. How long does the average Pharmacy Technician/assistant stay in your pharmacy?

_____

4. What kind of training do you offer your present Pharmacy Technicians/assistants? Check (✓) all which apply.

_____ A. Hire only qualified technicians/assistants (describe requirements)

_____

_____

_____

_____ B. In-service training (how long)

_____

_____ C. Courses taught at the hospital (describe)

_____

_____

_____ D. Continuing education seminars or workshops (give some sample titles)

_____

_____

_____ E. Other (describe)

_____

_____

_____

5. If Harper were to implement this proposed program or something similar to it, how many of your current technicians and assistants would you recommend enroll in the program?

_____ Number you would recommend enroll for a few courses.

_____ Number you would recommend enroll for the certificate.

6. Do you have a tuition reimbursement program which would be applicable to your Pharmacy Technician/assistant employees who might enroll in Harper's proposed new program? Check (✓) one.

_____ A. Complete reimbursement
_____ B. Partial reimbursement
_____ C. No reimbursement
_____ D. Don't know or not sure of policy

7. If Harper were to implement this proposed program or something similar, how many Harper graduates new to your hospital would you hire in a year's time?

_____

8. What would likely be the starting salary of a Harper graduate in this program at your hospital?

_____

9. What is the current starting salary for unqualified Pharmacy Technicians/assistants whom you must train yourself?

_____

10. If Harper were to implement this program, how many clinical training stations, if any, could you provide at any one time?

_____

11. Do you know of anyone who is qualified and might be interested in serving as a guest faculty member?

_____

(If you would rather contact this person first, you can send the name later in writing to me at Harper College)

12. Do you know of anyone who is qualified and might be willing to serve on an advisory committee for the Pharmacy Technology Program?

_____

(Again,if you would rather contact this person first, you can send the name later in writing to me at Harper College)

13. Would you be willing to send to me at Harper College a letter supporting the establishment of this Pharmacy Technology Program?

_____ Yes
_____ No
_____ Maybe

PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

CERTIFICATE

FALL SEMESTER

PHT 101	Introduction to Pharmacy Technology	(1-0)	1 s.h.
PHT 102	Pharmacy Law	(1-0)	1 s.h.
PHT 110	Basic Pharmacy Math and Pharmacology	(4-0)	4 s.h.
PHT 111	Pharmacy Operations I	(2-3)	3 s.h.
HSC 112	Medical Terminology	(2-0)	2 s.h.
SEC 138	Electronic Data Entry	(0-4)	2 s.h.
PSY 110	Human Potential Seminar	(1-0)	1 s.h.
		18 Contact Hours	14 s.h.

SPRING SEMESTER

DPR 101	Introduction to Data Processing	(3-0)	3 s.h.
BIO 136	Introduction to Human Disease	(3-0)	3 s.h.
PHT 120	Advanced Pharmacology for Pharmacy Technicians	(3-0)	3 s.h.
PHT 112	Pharmacy Operations II	(2-6)	4 s.h.
PHT 103	Sterile Products & Aseptic Technique	(2-3)	3 s.h.
		22 Contact Hours	16 s.h.

SUMMER SEMESTER

PHT 113	Pharmacy Technician Practicum	(0-15)	5 s.h.

* PHT 101 Introduction to Pharmacy Technology (1-0) 1 hr.

Introductory material related to the Pharmacy Technology Program, including an overview of the program, a definition of the pharmacy technician's role, and a review of opportunities open to certified pharmacy technicians.

* PHT 102 Pharmacy Law (1-0) 1 hr.

Overview of legal aspects of hospital pharmacy practice, including a thorough review of federal Controlled Substances Act and Illinois statutes and rules and regulations.

* PHT 110 Basic Pharmacy Math and Pharmacology (4-0) 4 hrs.

Presents an overview of the origins, indications and classifications of commonly used medications. Presents calculations involved in preparing drugs and dosage forms. Stresses ability to deal with proportion, percentage and allegation problems.

* PHT 111 Pharmacy Operations I (2-3) 3 hrs.

Fundamentals of drug distribution in hospital and retail pharmacies, including bulk compounding, packaging, quality control, inventory control, drug storage and a variety of drug delivery systems. Introductory experiences in local pharmacies will provide the opportunity to assist in processing of in-patient and out-patient prescriptions under the supervision of a Registered Pharmacist.

HSC 112 Medical Terminology (2-0) 2 hrs.

Emphasizes the basic structure of medical words and includes prefixes, suffixes, roots, combining forms and plurals. Pronunciation, spelling, and definition of medical terms. Emphasis will be on rendering a professional vocabulary required for work in the medical field.

* SEC 138 Electronic Data Entry (0-4) 2 hrs.

Provides introduction to electronic data entry equipment including basic keyboarding skills. Practical applications designed to relate to specific career area of the student. Instruction on a self-paced basis in a lab situation.

PSY 110 Human Potential Seminar (1-0) 1 hr.

Designed to facilitate the development of individual human potential through a variety of small-group experiences. Individual sections may focus on, but are not limited to values, attitudes, life style planning, interpersonal skills, leadership, assertive behavior and decision-making. This course is not repeatable for credit.

DPR 101 Introduction to Data Processing (3-0) 3 hrs.

Covers the history, scope, and significance of data processing including the following areas: mechanical data processing, unit record data processing, and electronic data processing systems and equipment. Included in the section on electronic data processing will be a brief study of a rudimentary programming language where the student will write a series of elementary level case studies using the language.

BIO 136 Introduction to Human Diseases (3-0) 3 hrs.

Surveys the nature of human diseases, with emphasis on the functional disturbances within the body systems. Designed to meet the needs of students in certain allied health career programs. Prerequisite: BIO 135, BIO 160 or consent of instructor.

* PHT 120 Advanced Pharmacology for Pharmacy Technicians (3-0) 3 hrs.

Study of the origins, dosage forms, indications, routes of administration, actions and side effects of drugs commonly encountered in hospital and retail pharmacy practice.

* PHT 112 Pharmacy Operations II (2-6) 4 hrs.

Continuation of PHT 111. Provides a further study of all aspects of pharmacy operations. Clinical laboratory experiences in local pharmacies will provide opportunity to apply principles learned and to participate in pharmacy operations activities under the supervision of Registered Pharmacists.

* PHT 103 Sterile Products & Aseptic Technique (2-3) 3 hrs.

Presentation and application of basic principles of microbiology, aseptic technique, methods of sterilization and the operation of the laminar flow hood to pharmaceutical practice. The student will also study the units of measurement and physical and chemical factors related to the preparation of pharmaceuticals.

* PHT 113 Pharmacy Practicum (0-15) 5 hrs.

Students will participate as members of the pharmacy team in local pharmacies. They will apply principles learned to the role of the pharmacy technician in all aspects of pharmacy operations under the supervision of Registered Pharmacists.

* New courses to be developed.

ALEXIAN BROTHERS MEDICAL CENTER

January 14, 1981

Ms. Patricia Wisner
Life Science and Human
Services Division
Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois 60067

Dear Ms. Wisner:

We at Alexian Brothers Medical Center are in support of the proposed Pharmacy technician program through Harper College.

The following people would be willing to accept faculty positions: Ada Wong, Robert Kizior, Dennis Tribble, Mary Jo Greco, Winglit Leung, Jo Ann Bohn. All are registered pharmacists in the State of Illinois.

All these people would be willing to be members of an advisory committee. Charles Bennett and Janet Layne would also consider the advisory committee membership.

Thank you for coordinating the efforts to make this program possible.

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Bohn, R.Ph.

Jo Ann Bohn, R.Ph.
Assistant Director/Pharmacy

JB/tj

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An Affiliate Of
The Hospital Company
Humana

1555 North Barrington Road
Hoffman Estates, Illinois
60194
312/843-2000

Suburban Medical Center

December 17, 1980

Ms. Patricia Wisner
Life Science and Human Services Division
Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, IL 60067

Dear Ms. Wisner:

This letter will serve as follow-up to our conversation of December 15, 1980. Allow me to express my full support for your proposed Pharmacy Technician curriculum. The program that you have outlined to me sounds to be a very sound one and I feel that it is one that will meet with eventual success.

At this time allow me to volunteer my services to serve on the Advisory Committee charged with the responsibility for setting this course up and also to be a part of the guest faculty when this course gets off the ground.

Sincerely yours,

Walter A. Herbster, RPh
Director of Pharmacy

WAH:sj

Evanston Hospital

2650 Ridge Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201
312 492 2000

December 15, 1980

Ms. Patricia Wisner
Life Sciences & Human Services Division
Harper College
Algonquin & Roselle Roads
Palatine, IL 60067

Dear Ms. Wisner:

As the profession of pharmacy moves rapidly toward a more cost-effective patient-care-oriented service with the pharmacist making his major contribution primarily his head rather than his hands, the need for trained technicians to assist with the delivery of pharmaceutical services will become an even more important necessity. Hospital pharmacies, as the major employers of technicians, are finding it increasingly more difficult to spend time in training this ancillary work force and are looking for a ready source of supply.

I support very strongly the development of a pharmacy technician training program within the junior college system that can remove this responsibility from the hospital and provide a better trained, more career oriented and stable work force.

I would personally be interested in assisting with the development of such a program both as a member of the advisory board and also as a part-time instructor. There are also several pharmacists on my staff who would be interested in serving as instructors. Each is well-educated, highly motivated and I'm confident would function well in such a capacity. Further information regarding backgrounds and availability would, of course, be available upon request.

I look forward with anticipation to the development of a formal pharmacy technician training program. Thank you for this opportunity to comment and offer my support.

Sincerely,

Harland E. Lee
Director, Pharmacy Services

HEL:kr

25

A Member of the McGaw Medical Center of Northwestern University

Good Shepherd Hospital
of the Evangelical Hospital Association

450 West Highway 22, Barrington, Illinois 60010 Area 312 381 [illegible]

Patricia Wisner
Life Science and Human Science
Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Road
Palatine Ill. 60067

Dear Pat:

As Director of Pharmacy I would like to offer my support to your Pharmacy Technician Training program as a future employer, advisor or potential faculty member. Pharmacy technician standardization is long overdue as shown by recent moves by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Hospitals to increase efforts for technician training and continuing education within each hospital. Your program could provide a valuble resource for both initial training and continuing education work. My only suggestion is that all final proposals be approved by :1) the Dean of Pharmacy, Univ. of Ill. at the Medical Center and 2) the Department of Registration and Education for the State of Illinois which will be the licensing agency.

If I can be of any help at any time, feel free to call me at extension 5090. I know that I speak for my pharmacist staff as well.

Good Luck,

P E Johnson

Phil Johnson, Director of Pharmacy

PJ:rm

Affiliated with the United Church of Christ

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
2160 South First Avenue, Maywood, Illinois 60153 312 · 531 3000

December 11, 1980

Ms. Patricia Wisner
Life Science and Human Service Div.
Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Road
Palatine, IL 60067

Dear Ms. Wisner:

As a follow-up to our conversation this day, may I again express my approval of the pharmacy technician curriculum program proposal we discussed.

You have already met with the Chicago Directors of Pharmacy Council and I can only re-enforce the position of my peers in regard to a genuine need for a pharmacy technician training program. Also, the council can serve as an important resource to Harper College as it explores the development of such a program.

Preliminary discussion , I am sure, has already acknowledged that most hospital pharmacies utilize technician support personnel and that the only consistent element in their training and background is inconsistency itself.

I certainly am not an expert in the matter nor do I necessarily have a deep visual incite into the total requisites or promise of a formalized training program for pharmacy technicians, but I do feel confident that any organized preparation and development of support personnel can only serve as a resource to the many hospitals within this metropolitan area.

Please let me know if I can be any further help.

Sincerely,

George B. McAloon

George B. McAloon
Pharmacy Director

GBM/ms

27

Lutheran General Hospital

1775 Dempster Street
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

Telephone 312 696-2210

December 23, 1980

Pat Wisner
Life Science & Human Services Division
William Rainey Harper College
Algonquin & Roselle Roads
Palatine, IL 60067

Dear Pat:

I would like to commend Harper College in taking the leadership role in trying to establish a pharmacy technician program to help meet the need for such trained personnel in both hospital and community pharmacies in the area. Please be assured that Harper has both my personal support and that of our Department of Pharmacy at Lutheran General in developing, implementing, and maintaining a technician training program. Speaking for the Chicago Directors of Pharmacy Council, you also have their strongest support.

To confirm our earlier conversation I would like to recommend Pat Black, the current supervisor of our intravenous admixture service, for consideration as a faculty member for the program. I would be happy to write a formal letter of recommendation for her at the appropriate time. Also, as I indicated to you, I would be happy to serve on the advisory group for the program. Finally, I foresee no problems in our department at Lutheran General serving as a practice site for some of the practical experience portion of some courses.

I would like to thank you and your colleagues at Harper for your willingness to consider starting this program. Please feel free to call on me if I can help you in any way.

Sincerely,

Mick Hunt

Mick Hunt, Director
Department of Pharmacy

MH:slw

We believe in Human Ecology, the understanding and treatment of the human being in his total environment in light of his relationship to God, himself, his family, and the society in which he lives.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Lawrence Steinman, R.Ph.
CHIEF PHARMACIST

Dec.29,1980

Pat Wisner,
Harper College.

Dear Pat:
This is in answer to your request regarding a pharmacy technician training program being initiated at Harper College.

I feel there is a need for this program.There are several hospitals in the suburban area that are into an I.V. additive program that need technicians for mixing I.V.s. Ours is not included in the latter however and I don't see it happening in the immediate future.

If and when we do have techs in the I.V. program we probably would send 1 or 2 to Harper for course work.

Sincerely,

Larry Steinman

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60005 · 312/259-1300

AREA CODE 312

MERCY HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER, STEVENSON EXPRESSWAY AT KING DRIVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60616

January 9, 1981

Ms. Patricia Wisner
Coordinator of C.E.
Harper College
Algonquin and Roselle Roads
Palatine, Illinois 60067

Dear Ms. Wisner:

I would like to take this opportunity to again express my support for and interest in the Pharmacy Technician Training Program and its development.

Because of the location of your institution, it would be difficult for our personnel to become involved with the program. However, I wholeheartedly support your efforts and would certainly encourage our technicians to take advantage of this training if it became available at a more central location.

Good luck on your plans for implementing this worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

Sister Margaret Wright

Sr. Margaret Wright
Director, Pharmacy Services
Mercy Hospital and Medical Center
Stevenson Expy at King Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60616

cc: Ms. Patricia Burke
Associate Dean

David L. Williams
Vice President of Academic Affairs

SMW/sc

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